

Developments

CUBA:

Handling Aftermath of Shootdown

Havana is trying to temper international condemnation of the aircraft shootdown by portraying the emigre pilots as "terrorists." For the past few days, Cuban officials have publicly stressed allegations of terrorism involving Brothers to the Rescue and other exile groups. En route to the UN to present Cuba's case, Foreign Minister Robaina said that any uncontrolled aircraft flying over a populated area was a threat.

— After UN rules of procedure prevented him from speaking to the General Assembly, Robaina held an improvised news conference.

Having tried to turn the issue into a bilateral dispute, Havana is now appealing to other small countries for solidarity by criticizing the UN Security Council. In a statement yesterday, the Foreign Ministry called the Council "a US Government agency"—a standard propaganda line.

— Havana, however, has accepted the Council's call for an investigation of the shutdown by the International Civil Aviation Organization but is insisting that it include past "provocative" airspace violations by exile planes. [REDACTED]

In a meeting with military officers on Tuesday, Armed Forces Minister Raul Castro said that Cuba was not intimidated and would devote "maximum attention" to defense, according to Cuban press reports.

~~Top Secret~~

The Shootdown: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

— The former Brothers to the Rescue pilot who appeared in Cuba the day before the shootdown may have tipped Havana off to the group's plans. [REDACTED]

~~Secret~~ [REDACTED]

~~Top Secret~~

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